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NBC

THE NATIONAL FARM AND HOME HOUR

ADVERTISER

UNCLE SAM'S FOREST RANGERS

WRITER

#475

PROGRAM TITLE

BLUE

OK

CHICAGO OUTLET

(11:30-12:15 PM)

TIME

(FEBRUARY 27, 1942

DATE

(FRIDAY

DAY

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PRODUCTION

ANNOUNCER

ENGINEER

REMARKS

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1911

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ANNOUNCER: Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers!

MUSIC: Theme

ANNOUNCER: Forests and People. . . This is the title of the 1941 Report of the Forest Service which Acting Chief Forester Earle H. Clapp recently sent to Secretary Wickard. Today, and perhaps from time to time in the coming weeks, I want to pass on to you some significant portions of this report. In Forests and People, Mr. Clapp makes this statement, Quote, "Two things now overshadow all else. One is that we are living in a world of flame. The other is that our future depends not only on the outcome of this titanic struggle, but also on how promptly and how well we prepare for the future, including a post-war period that is certain to be critical. For this future, too, will require a productive agriculture, busy factories, a people at work, and plentiful supplies of raw materials." . . . Yes, America now and always will need plentiful supplies of raw materials. And one of the most important of our great raw-material assets is our forests. For the sake of the forests; for the sake of the American people, our forests must be kept continuously productive. They go together, Forests and People. . . Now, let's see what's happening at the Pine Cone Ranger Station. Here's Ranger Jim Robbins and Bess, and his assistant, Jerry Quick, waiting for Mary Halloway, the local schoolma'am, to come over for supper. Jerry, as usual, is the impatient one, but. . . well. . . here they are:

Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers!

Theme

ANNOUNCER:

MUSIC:

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Forests and People. . . This is the title of the 1941 Report

of the Forest Service which Acting Chief Forester Earle H.

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waiting for Mary Holloway, the local schoolm'am, to come

over for supper. Jerry, as usual, is the impatient one,

but . . . well . . . here they are:

JERRY: Doggone that gal of mine, anyway! Just look at the time. You'd think she'd know Jim and I want our supper on time after a hard day's work.

JIM: Speak for yourself, Jerry. I don't mind waitin'. Maybe Mary's been workin' too, and has a good reason for bein' late.

JERRY: On Saturday afternoon? She didn't have to teach school today. I'll betcha she's just fussin' with her hair or something.

BESS: Well, if that doesn't sound just like a man. No, Jerry, Jim's right. Mary did have something to do this afternoon.

JERRY: Huh? What d(ya mean, Mrs. Robbins?

VESS: Mary called me from town and said she was oing to visit Mrs. Roberts this afternoon and that she might be a little late for supper.

JIM: Mrs. Roberts? You mean the woman that lives up there near the west boundary of the Forest?

BESS: Yes, Jim. Her daughter, Sue, is one of Mary's pupils.

JERRY: Oh, I know the family. That's Widow Roberts. She's got a son, too.

BESS: Yes. He's away, in the Army. Mrs. Roberts is working their little place herself.

JERRY: Why would Mary visit way over there? And why didn't you tell us she said she might be late, so I wouldn't have gone off half-cocked.

JERRY:

Someone that gal of mine, anyway! Just look at the time.
You'd think she'd know Jim and I want our supper on time
after a hard day's work.

JIM:

Speak for yourself, Jerry. I don't mind waitin'. Maybe
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son, too.

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little place herself.

JERRY:

Why would Mary visit way over there? And why didn't you tell
us she said she might be late, so I wouldn't have gone off
half-cooked.

1. BESS: (LAUGHING) You didn't give me a chance to tell you, Jerry.
2. My goodness, you no sooner changed from your work clothes
3. than you came stomping down the stairs shouting, "Supper, I
4. want my supper!"
5. JERRY: (SHEEPISHLY) Yeah, I guess you're right.
6. JIM: Reminds me of the old saying, "Even a fish wouldn't get
7. into trouble if he knew when to keep his mouth shut."
8. JERRY: Hey, that's the last straw, Jim Robbins! Put 'em up. Them's
9. fightin' words. Add insult to injury, will yuh.
10. JIM: (CHUCKLES) I never fight on an empty stomach. . . (DOOR OPENS
11. AND CLOSSES) Well, there's Mary.
12. BESS: (LAUGHING) Just in time, I'd say. (CALLS) In here, Mary.
13. We're in the living room.
14. MARY: (COMING ON) Hello, everybody. I'm sorry I'm so late.
15. JERRY: You should be, young lady.
16. MARY: Stop growling, Jerry. When I tell you what kept me you won't
17. feel so sorry for yourself.
18. JERRY: Can't it wait until we get to the table? I can always listen
19. better when I got a hunk of Mrs. Robbins' chuck roast in my
20. mouth.
21. BESS: Something's wrong, Mary. What is it? Aren't the Roberts
22. well?
23. MARY: Oh, it isn't that. Suppose I start at the beginning.
24. JERRY: What's all that stuff you got there with you. Looks like
25. survey records or something. Going in the real estate
business?

business?

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You should be, young lady.

(COMING ON) Hello, everybody. I'm sorry I'm so late.

We're in the living room.

(LAUGHING) Just in time, I'd say. (CALLS) In here, Mary.

AND CLOSERS) Well, there's Mary.

(CHUCKLES) I never light on an empty stomach. . . (DOOR OPENS

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(SHERRISHLY) Yeah, I guess you're right.

want my supper?"

than you came strapping down the stairs shouting, "Supper, I

My goodness, you no sooner changed from your work clothes

(LAUGHING) You didn't give me a chance to tell you, Jerry.

1. MARY: Hush, silly.

2. JIM: Let her explain, Jerry.

3. MARY: Well, yesterday, after school, I found Sue Roberts at the
4. door crying as though her little heart would break. At
5. first, all I could get out of her was that they, somebody,
6. was going to take her home away from her.

7. JERRY: Hey! Nobody can do that. The Roberts have been on that
8. place of theirs for years. Haven't they, Jim?

9. JIM: Yep, a good many years. What's the story, Mary.

10. MARY: Well, when I finally calmed Sue down she tried to explain,
11. but I wasn't able to get very much out of her except that,
12. after all these years, somebody is claiming the property
13. their house is on.

14. BESS: Is that possible, Jim?

15. JIM: Depends on what kind of a legal hold Mrs. Roberts has on the
16. property.

17. MARY: I wanted to get the whole story so I went up to see Mrs.
18. Roberts this afternoon. She told me that some man in
19. Elk City has been awarded mineral rights to a big parcel of
20. land that takes in where her house is.

21. JERRY: Gosh. He must've got the rights on the theory that no-one
22. legally owned the land before then.

23. MARY: Yes, that's right, Jerry. And now he's told Mrs. Roberts
24. that she'll have to move because he intended to develop the
25. land and search for minerals real soon.

July 1944

Let her explain, Jerry.

and is affected. and cannot I, however, really, yesterday, the

down saying as though her little heart would break.

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Language on what kind of travel hold was. Belarby has

THANKS

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10-11-68

10-10-68

land that taken in where her house is.

10-10-1964

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THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

that they have to move because he intended to develop it

and search for suitable real estate

1. BESS: But hasn't Mrs. Roberts anything at all to prove her title
2. to the land, or at least to the part her house is on?
3. JERRY: Yeah, and if it's a big claim, like you say, somebody else's
4. property must be involved too.
5. JIM: I've been thinking about that, Jerry. The rest of the land
6. except for Mrs. Roberts place, must be in woods.
7. MARY: Well, as you know, Mrs. Roberts' son is in the Army and the
8. poor woman's heartsick because she doesn't know what to do
9. and there's no one to help her. I told her I'd tell you
10. about it, Mr. Robbins.
11. JIM: What did you say her legal claim is?
12. MARY: Well, all she has to go on was an old survey made years ago.
13. She had copies of all the survey records and she let me take
14. them to show to you.
15. JERRY: That might be an earlier survey than the one this fellow's
16. claim's based on. . . Here, let's take a look at 'em.
17. (PAPER CRACKLING) This map first.
18. Let's see. Here's her place.
19. JIM: Yeah, and. . . well! Look Jerry. . . Section 31, Township 8
20. South, Range 12 East. . . See? That's National Forest land.
21. The Pine Cone National Forest dips down right next to the
22. Roberts' place.
23. BESS: You mean, our national forest land is involved in this case,
24. Jim?
25. JIM: Exactly, Bess. The Government claims are based on that old
survey, too.

the same time, Roberts is trying at all to prove her title

to the land or at least to the part her house is on?

Yeah, and it is a big claim, like you say, somebody else

property must be involved too.

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except the part Roberts claims, must be in woods.

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post woman's husband because she doesn't know what to do

and there's no one to help her. I told her I'd tell you

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(Takes documents) This way first.

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Yeah, and... well, look Jerry... Section 31, Township 8

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exactly, here. The Government claims are based on that old

survey, too.

1. MARY: And you'll be able to help Mrs. Roberts fight for her proper
2. then?
3. JERRY: I think maybe Jim and I would have tried to help anyway,
4. Mary. This just makes it the more urgent.
5. JIM: H-m-m. These survey notes here don't look so good for our
6. side. . .
7. JERRY: What d'ya mean?
8. JIM: Well, we'll have to establish the existence of the old
9. boundary corners, see?
10. JERRY: Yeah?
11. JIM: These notes of the original survey list the corners as, let's
12. see, an oak stump, a pine tree at one corner, an oak tree
13. at another . . .
14. JERRY: Yeah, I get it. Those trees'll most likely be gone by now.
15. What the devil can we do, Jim? Like you say, we'd have to
16. establish the corners of the old survey.
17. JIM: I reckon we'll all take a trip tomorrow and do a little
18. personal investigating. All of us.
19. JERRY: Well, since that's settled, let's eat, huh? I'm starved!
20. ALL LAUGH OUT
21. MUSIC---INTERLUDE
22. FADE IN THUMP AS IN DIGGING, REPEAT
23. JERRY: I'll have part of this old root out in a jiffy, Jim. Just
24. a few more licks with this shovel and then I'll be ready for
25. the axe.

the you'll be able to help Mrs. Roberts right for her proper

them?

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any. This just makes it the more urgent.

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ALL LAUGH OUT

MUSIC--INTERLUDE

FADE IN THUMB AS IN DIGGING, REPEAT

I'll have part of this one root out in a little, Jim. . .

a few more like with this shovel and then I'll be ready to

the end.

1. JIM: Just get a small section. That'll be all we'll need, Jerry.

2. BESS: I'm not sure I understand exactly what you're going to do

3. with the piece of root Jerry's digging out, Jim. And with

4. that other piece you got from that old tree over there.

5. JIM: Well, I think we're on the old survey line, see? The notes

6. indicate that an old oak stump was used somewhere around here

7. as a corner. A mighty important corner too because it's

8. on the boundary line that'll help save Mrs. Roberts' place

9. if we can establish the fact that a corner did actually exist

10. here. . . Well, you saw me cut out a piece of root of that

11. old tree over there. Now we know that that old tree

12. is an oak tree. But I'm not too sure what kind of a tree

13. it was that left that stump there that Jerry's working under.

14. The old stump's almost completely rotted away.

15. SOUND OF CHOPPING

16. JERRY: I'll have this root out in a minute, Jim. Seems to be

17. pretty sound down here.

18. MARY: Oh, I see now. You're hoping it was an oak tree that stood

19. there; is that right?

20. JIM: Yeah. We'll compare the two pieces of root and if the one

21. Jerry's getting now is like this oak root I got in my hand,

22. we'll know it's oak, too. And we'll have something to fight

23. with. A little something anyway.

24. JERRY: I got it, Jim. It looks just like that other root. Let's

25. see your piece. . . Yes sir! It's an old oak stump, all right,

Jim. There's no doubt about it.

Just got a small section. That'll be all we'll need. I'm not sure I understand exactly what you're going to do with the piece of root Jerry's digging out, Jim. And when that other piece you got from that old tree over there. Well, I think we're on the old survey line, aren't we? I indicate that an old camp stump was used somewhere around here as a corner. A mighty important corner too because it's on the boundary line that'll help save Mrs. Roberts' place. If we can establish the fact that a corner did actually exist here, . . . Well, you saw me cut out a piece of root of that old tree over there. Now we know that that old tree is an oak tree. But I'm not too sure what kind of a tree it was that left that stump there that Jerry's working on. This old stump's almost completely rotted away.

BOUND OF CHIPPING

There's no doubt about it. You're right. It's an old oak stump, all right. It looks just like that other root. But a little something anyway. We'll know it's oak, too. And we'll have something to right Henry's feeling now as like this oak rose I got in my hand. Yeah. We'll compare the two pieces of root and if the one there, is that right? Oh, I see now. You're hoping it was an oak that wood I'll have this root cut in a minute, Jim. Seems to be

1. JIM: Good!

2. BESS: (FROM OFF) Jim, come here. Look at this tree.

3. JIM: What yuh got, Bess? Oh, another oak tree, huh?

4. BESS: Look here, Jim. Look at this queer bulge here, on the side
5. of this tree. What could have made that scar, do you suppose?

6. JIM: Good girl, Bess! Unless I'm badly mistaken that's a witness
7. tree and we'll find something mighty interesting under that
8. bulge. (CALLS) Jerry, bring your axe over here. And the
9. increment borer.

10. JERRY: (OFF) Coming, Jim.

11. BESS: What's a witness tree, Jim?

12. JIM: When a surveyor sets up a corner along a boundary line
13. he usually cuts numbers and the like in several trees
14. facing the corner he establishes, see? The trees he marks
15. bear witness that the corner has been placed close by. In
16. time, the blaze he makes heals over and all that's left is
17. a scar, like this. If this is a witness tree we're all set,
18. all O.K.

19. JERRY: Here you are, Jim.

20. JIM: Look, Jerry, while I cut away this scar, you bore into the
21. tree and get me a core will you? So we can see how old this
22. baby is.

23. SOUND OF CHOPPING.
24.
25.

(FROM OFF) Jim, come here. Look at this tree.

What you got, Boss? Oh, another oak tree, huh?

Look here, Jim. Look at this queer bulge here, on the side of this tree. What could have made that scar, do you suppose? Good girl, Sam! Unless I'm badly mistaken that's a witness tree and we'll find something mighty interesting under that bulge. (DAVID) Jerry, bring your axe over here. And the

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nearby; the corner he establishes, see? The trees he marks

best witness that the corner has been placed close by. In

time, the place he makes marks over and all that's left is

a scar, like this. It tells us a witness tree we've all set

all O.K.

What you say, Jim?

Look, Jerry, while I cut away this scar, you bore into the

tree and get me a core will you? So we can see how old this

scar is.

SCENE OF DISCOVERY

1. JIM: (BETWEEN STROKES OF AXE) Gotta be careful I don't destroy
 2. what we're huntin' for.

3. JERRY: I've got the core here now, Jim. Want me to count the rings?
 4. JIM: Yep! I'm about deep enough with my cuttin' I figure. It
 5. ought to show up if I'm right.

6. MARY: Look! You've uncovered some numbers, Mr. Robbins. And
 7. letters, too!

8. CHOPPING OUT

9. JIM: Yep. This is it. This is it!

10. JERRY: Not much growth in the last eighty or ninety years, Jim.
 11. I'd say it goes back about to where you cleared those numbers
 12. on the blaze. That means the numbers were cut in there about
 13. that long ago.

14. BESS: You can read the letters, Jim. See? There's an N and an E.
 15. JIM: That means northeast corner. And those numbers there. . .
 16. they're a little blurred now, but they oughta show just how
 17. far and in what direction the corner is, from this witness
 18. tree. Take my word for it, folks, that old oak stump is
 19. the corner.

20. MARY: And Mrs. Roberts' home is safe?

21. JIM: Well, I doubt if we'll have much trouble after I explain
 22. about this earlier survey to the gentleman from Elk City,
 23. but if we do I reckon a Judge couldn't do anything but give
 24. clear claim to the property to Mrs. Roberts, and to Uncle
 25. Sam for the public land that's involved.

(BETWEEN STROKES OF AXE) Gotta be careful I don't destroy

JIM:

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CHOPPING OUT

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Yep. This is it. That's it!

JERRY:

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on the place. That means the numbers were out in there about

that long ago.

ESSA:

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JIM:

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clear claim to the property to Mrs. Roberts, and to Uncle

Sam for the public land that's involved.

1. BESS: That's wonderful, Jim!

2. JIM: Well, like I've always said you can sure count on the trees
3. to help out folks in trouble.

4. MUSIC : FINALE

5. ANNOUNCER: And now, Ranger Jim Robbins has a little story he wants to
6. tell us--about sixteen-year-old David Evert of Gunnison,
7. Colorado.

8. JIM: I just want to tell you about the splendid part young
9. David Evert played the other day in the rescue of a very
10. sick rancher, snowbound in his cabin in the Gunnison
11. National Forest. We can imagine his fight against the deep
12. snowdrifts and the bitter cold as he worked his way with
13. his father, Forest Ranger Arthur J. Ebert and Forest Ranger
14. William Poley and Telephone Linesman C. D. McConegal, to
15. that cabin high up along the Continental Divide. We have
16. been informed that David's right hand and right foot were
17. badly frozen during their errand of mercy. Uncle Sam's
18. Forest Rangers sincerely hope he'll be all right real soon!
19. Good luck to you, David!

20. ANNOUNCER: Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers has been presented with the
21. cooperation of the Forest Service, United States
22. Department of Agriculture.

BESS: That's wonderful, Jim!
JIM: Well, like I've always said you can sure count on the trees
to help out folks in trouble.

MUSIC : FINALE

ANNOUNCER:

And now, Ranger Jim Robbins has a little story he wants to
tell us--about sixteen-year-old David Ebert of Gunnison,
Colorado.

JIM:

I just want to tell you about the splendid part young
David Ebert played the other day in the rescue of a very
sick rancher, snowbound in his cabin in the Gunnison
National Forest. We can imagine his fight against the deep
snowdrifts and the bitter cold as he worked his way with
his father, Forest Ranger Arthur J. Ebert and Forest Ranger
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that cabin high up along the Continental Divide. We have
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